

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2956
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 18624

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, GW, SF
SUBJECT: FRG AMBASSADOR RETURNS TO SOUTH AFRICA

REFS: (A) BONN 17790; (B) BONN 18186

1. FRG AMBASSADOR EICK HAS RETURNED TO SOUTH AFRICA CARRYING WITH HIM A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER. THE MESSAGE, WHICH EICK EXPECTS TO DELIVER ON NOVEMBER 10, IS ADDRESSED TO PIK BOTHA.
2. ACCORDING TO MUELLER, FOREIGN OFFICE COMMISSIONER FOR AFRICA, GENSCHER'S MESSAGE IS A PERSONAL RESTATEMENT OF VIEWS ALREADY PUBLICLY EXPRESSED. MUELLER PARAPHRASED THE CONTENTS AS FOLLOWS:

-- THE FACT THAT THE FRG VOTED FOR CHAPTER 7 SANCTIONS SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS DESIRE TO CUT OFF THE DIALOGUE WITH THE SAG.

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-- THE FRG VALUES THE QUIET AND SINCERE TALKS BEGUN IN FRANKFURT AND HOPES THESE WILL CONTINUE.

-- THE SAG MUST REALIZE THE IMPACT OF ITS OWN ACTIONS IN OPENING SOUTH AFRICA TO COMMUNIST INFLUENCE. BY BANNING THOSE MODERATE GROUPS WILLING TO TALK TO IT, THE SAG HAS SILENCED THE STRONGEST OPPONENTS TO A COMMUNIST

TAKEOVER.

-- THE FRG LOOKS FORWARD TO THE PEACEFUL, DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS AS ANNOUNCED BY THE SAG IN NOVEMBER 1974.

-- THE SAG SHOULD READ THE ARMS EMBARGO AS A WARNING.

-- THE FRG "FEARS" THAT A CONTINUATION OF THE SAG'S PRESENT POLICIES WOULD CAUSE SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL REACTION AS TO MAKE CONTINUED WESTERN OPPOSITION TO EXPANDED SANCTIONS MORE DIFFICULT.

3. MUELLER CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT GENSCHER PLANS TO CALL IN SAG AMBASSADOR VON SCHIRNDING WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS TO DISCUSS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITH HIM. FOLLOWING THAT DISCUSSION, THE FRG WILL BEGIN A SERIES OF CONSULTATIONS WITH AFRICAN AMBASSADORS.

4. MUELLER DID NOT EXPECT GENSCHER TO PROPOSE ANYTHING NEW IN ANY OF THESE CONSULTATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, HE HAS PROMISED TO KEEP US APPRISED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN BONN.
STOESSEL

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